

HARD-PRESSED FRENCH HELPED BY BRITISH

Australian Siege Brigade Was Dispatched to the Defense of Verdun as Germans Continue Their Enveloping Movement Southwest of the Fortress

PARIS ADMITS LOSS OF NEW POSITIONS

Forges and Hill No. 265, to Southwest of Regneville, Have Fallen Before the Determined Assaults of the Invaders, but French Stop Another Movement

The attack on Verdun has shifted to the west and the Germans now are engaged in pounding their way toward a fortress from beyond the Meuse, advancing along a railroad that parallels the westerly bank. Last night the crown prince's troops assaulted and took the town of Forges, nine miles southwest of Verdun, but were prevented by the French from debauching against Cote de Lois, a height which lies a mile to the south.

To-day comes the admission from Paris that the Germans, after a violent bombardment, had succeeded in forcing their way through Forges and along the railroad in the vicinity of Regneville village, a mile and one-half to the southeast. Simultaneously an entire division violently attacked and captured hill No. 265, southwest of Regneville. Heavy losses were sustained by the Germans in taking this position, Paris declares.

The first confirmation of the reports that the British were assisting the French in the defense of Verdun came to-day in a statement that the Australian siege brigade is fighting there. British big guns are said to have been doing great execution.

GERMANS NOW HOLD FRESNES VILLAGE

Berlin War Office Announced Capture of the Position in the Woivre District.

Berlin, March 7.—The war office announced to-day that the village of Fresnes in Woivre, southeast of Verdun, was captured this morning by the Germans.

ITALIAN RAID VERY DESTRUCTIVE

Aeroplane Attack on Austrian City of Laibach is Said to Have Resulted in Death or Wounding of 800 Soldiers.

Geneva, March 7.—Eight hundred Austrian soldiers in barracks were killed or wounded in the raid by Italian aeroplanes February 19 on the city of Laibach, according to information received here yesterday.

Two high officers of the staff of Archduke Eugene, commander-in-chief of the Austrian forces operating against Italy, are said to have been killed. One of the Italian aeroplanes was destroyed.

Laibach is about 45 miles east of Gorizia and has a population of about 30,000. It has been stated that it is the headquarters of the Austrian army operating against the Italians. An official report of the raid given out in Rome said that it was in retaliation for numerous violations of international laws by the Austrians. It is added that the raiding squadron dropped several dozens of grenades and bombs on the city. An Austrian official statement, referring to the same raid, said that it was "a lamentable failure."

GERMANS CAPTURE VILLAGE.

Forges Taken After Lively Struggle, Says French Report.

Paris, March 7.—The following official statement was issued by the war office last night: "In Champagne the Germans delivered an attack accompanied by jets of liquid flame on our position between Mont Tatu and Maisons in the Champagne. On our right the enemy stopped by our barrier fire was not able to set out from his trenches. To the left in the region of Maisons in the Champagne he succeeded in penetrating a small advanced section. "In the Argonne we exploded in the region of Courtes Chasseuses a mine which destroyed a German post and caused a vast crater, the south edge of which we organized.

"Between Haute Chavannee and hill 285, after having exploded two mines, the enemy by reason of the explosions was able to gain a foothold at several points in our first line. An engagement ensued in the course of which we drove

our adversary out of our trench and we occupy one side of the crater. Our artillery has been very active in the whole of this sector.

"West of the Meuse after a violent bombardment which lasted the whole morning on the front between Bethincourt and the Meuse, the Germans launched a strong attack against the Forges situation on our advanced line. In the course of a very lively struggle they succeeded in taking possession of the village. Several attempts to debauch on Cote de Lois were checked by our counter-attacks which drove the enemy back into Forges.

"East of the Meuse there has been an intermittent artillery action.

"In the Woivre an intense bombardment has occurred in the region of Fresnes, but was not followed by any infantry attack. West of Pontamousson our artillery caused heavy damage to the German organization in the Bois du Jury."

GERMAN WARSHIPS HAVE LEFT KIEL

Twenty Dreadnoughts Left the German Base, According to Information Allowed to Pass by British Censor.

London, March 5, via London, delayed, March 7.—Twenty German dreadnoughts have left Kiel, according to information received here to-day.

The foregoing dispatch was held up by the British censor for two days. Another dispatch, filed in London early to-day, said a fleet of 25 German warships was seen Monday cruising in the North sea. This message was received in London from Vlieland, North Holland. It was added that the vessels approached from the northeast and disappeared northward.

GERMANY IS IN EARNEST

Reported Col. E. M. House to President Wilson.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—With the appendices to Germany's declaration of the new submarine campaign against armed merchant ships of her enemies before it, the administration is preparing to determine the next move of the United States in the negotiations with the central European powers. According to the present plans, diplomatic negotiations on the subject are to follow a settlement of the controversy in Congress.

Col. E. M. House, who returned from Europe Sunday, is understood to have told the president and Secretary Lansing yesterday that the German government believed itself justified in its new submarine policy and was not bluffing.

Col. House is believed to have strengthened the view already held by both the president and Secretary Lansing that the submarine negotiations must be handled with greatest care if a break with Germany is to be avoided, although he reported that Germany had no desire for war with the United States. He discussed the issue frankly with Herr von Jagow, the German foreign minister, and Dr. von Bothmann-Holwegg, the imperial chancellor.

Virtually the entire day was spent by the colonel in conference with President Wilson, Secretary Lansing, Assistant Secretary Phillips and other government officials. He plans to remain here until to-night. Some of the information that he brought back is expected to be laid before the cabinet.

The appendices of the German memorandum arrived at the state department yesterday. The Berlin foreign office claims they offer conclusive evidence that British merchantmen armed ostensibly for defense purpose have been ordered to use their armament offensively.

REFUSES USE OF HIS NAME.

Charles E. Hughes Again Reads Himself Out of Contest.

Boston, March 7.—A further refusal to sanction the use of his name as a presidential candidate was made by Justice Charles E. Hughes in a letter to Charles H. Brown, a former state senator from Medford, made public last night.

"As I understand it, you desire to pledge yourself as a delegate, and you find it will be necessary to have the acceptance of the candidate in whose support the pledge is made," the justice wrote. "In answer I must adhere to the position I have taken. As I have repeatedly said, I am not a candidate in any sense, and in view of my obligations as a member of the supreme court, I cannot permit the use of my name."

WHOLE FAMILY SLAIN.

Seven People Murdered Near Lawton, Okla.

Lawton, Okla., March 7.—Seven members of the family of Dr. O'Kane, a farmer, were found murdered in a home, 12 miles southeast of Lawton yesterday. O'Kane himself lay beside the body of his father, probably fatally shot. A negro hired man discovered the bodies. The murderer had used a razor, a hammer and a small calibre rifle. These were found on the floor. Nearby was a basin of water crimsoned with blood from the hands of the murderer.

Those killed were O'Kane's wife, an infant, four children ranging from four to 10 years of age, and O'Kane's aged father.

For Dry Cleaning.

In cleaning any fabric with gasoline or similar fluid it sometimes happens that a ring is left around the garment in process of cleaning. To prevent such a ring it is recommended that by adding common table salt to the gasoline used spots can often be removed from delicate fabrics in a most satisfactory manner. If, however, a ring has been left, the place cleansed should be wet again and immediately covered while still damp with fuller's earth, extending just beyond the ring. Let this remain on for some time, and when brushed off the spot should have disappeared. Gypsum may be used in like manner instead of the fuller's earth if preferred.

U. S. CONSUL AMONG SAVED

Charles Tredek Was on Board the Ill-Fated Steamer Principe De Asturias

ALMOST 500 LOST OFF BRAZIL COAST

Steamer Remained Afloat Only a Short Time After Striking a Rock

Rio Janeiro, March 7.—According to the latest information, the number of deaths on the Spanish steamship Principe De Asturias, which struck a rock and sank off Santos Sunday, has reached almost 500. Among those saved was the new American consul to Santos, Charles Tredek. More than 600 passengers were aboard the ship.

The steamer remained afloat only a short time after striking the shoal, and there was little chance for the escape of passengers and crew to the boats. Steamers went out to aid in the rescue work and 143 of the passengers and crew were landed at Santos.

Santos, Brazil, March 7.—The Spanish steamer Principe De Asturias has been sunk by striking a rock. She went to the bottom in five minutes. Eighty-six members of the crew and 50 passengers have been brought to Santos. The survivors were brought in by the French steamer Vig. A Spanish steamship is standing by.

London, March 7.—A Lloyd's dispatch from Santos says that 333 passengers and 107 members of the crew on the Principe De Asturias are missing. The steamer was wrecked Sunday off Sebastiao Point, the western extremity of the island of that name near the entrance to Santos bay.

SHEET OF FLAME STRUCK MEN

Most of Casualties Among Mexicans and Their Countrymen Are Enraged.

El Paso, Texas, March 7.—Eighteen are dead and a number are not expected to live as the result of an explosion yesterday in the disinfection bath in a room in the city jail. More than 40 prisoners were in the room when the explosion occurred, and nearly all were seriously burned.

A lighted match ignited vapor arising from a mixture of gasoline, kerosene and vinegar, in which the prisoners, mostly Mexicans, were being bathed to prevent the spread of disease. Sheets of flames flashed through the east wing of the prison and almost immediately the street fronting the jail was filled with naked shrieking men, enveloped in fire.

While an investigation positively to determine the cause of the explosion is in progress, civil and military authorities at Juarez, Mexico, across the river, are searching for an unidentified Mexican, who last night boarded a street car and shot the motorman, after a report had spread that 200 Mexicans had been thrown into the jail in El Paso and deliberately burned to death. This report spread so rapidly and caused such great excitement in the Mexican town that heavy military patrols had to be put out to prevent outbreaks against Americans.

BIG WAGE INCREASE.

Will Be Granted to the Bituminous Coal Operators.

New York, March 7.—Wage increases that may annually approximate eight million dollars or more in the soft coal fields of western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, were agreed on late yesterday by the sub-committee of the bituminous operators and miners from those states who are negotiating a new wage scale to go into effect April 1. The action of the sub-committee will be reported for ratification to the full joint conference of operators and miners.

In the meantime, the session of the joint sub-committee of anthracite miners and operators, fixed for to-day, has been deferred until Wednesday afternoon to permit the miners to complete their negotiations with the bituminous employers.

The action yesterday by the bituminous sub-committee will have an important effect, it is said, on the wage contracts to be negotiated in central Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Michigan, Iowa, and Kentucky by the United Mine Workers of America. Nearly 200,000 men will benefit by the increases in western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

Aside from the general increase of three cents a ton granted by the coal companies, the miners in western Pennsylvania won the mine run system of paying wages, something the officers of the union say they have been striving to obtain for thirty years. The mine run system adds 2.39 cents a ton to the miners wages and gives them about \$1,250,000 a year, not counting the three cents a ton general increase also won by them.

DERAILMENT AT WATERBURY.

Twenty-One Freight Cars Were Struck Over Tracks.

Waterbury, March 7.—Twenty-one freight cars were struck over three tracks of the Central Vermont railroad at the station here early this morning by a derailment, and the northbound passenger train was held up for about two hours while the main line was being cleared. A work-gang crew was sent from St. Albans to clear the wreckage.

REPUBLICANS GAIN TWO MAINE CITIES

Elected Seven Mayors and Eight City Tickets in the Ten Municipalities That Voted Yesterday.

Portland, Me., March 7.—Republicans elected their candidates for mayoralty honors in seven and for city officials in eight of the ten Maine cities in which elections were held yesterday, a net gain of two city governments over last year.

They retained control of municipal affairs at Hallowell, where they elected John M. Robinson over Mayor Samuel G. Otis, but lost out at Rockland, where Frank C. Flint was chosen mayor with a Democratic city government.

The closest contest was at Waterville, in which city Col. Frederick E. Boothby, mayor of Portland for several years, was declared elected mayor on the face of the returns by two votes over Ora A. Meador, a Democrat. An examination of the ballots will be made.

In re-electing Mayor Charles E. West, South Portland Republicans gave him a Republican city government in place of one of Democratic complexion. Bath Democrats retained Mayor John A. Small in office, but lost their majority in the board of aldermen and common council.

The mayors elected and complexion of the municipal governments are as follows:

City.	Mayor.	Govt.
Auburn.	Henry R. Porter, R.	R.
Bath.	John A. Small, D.	R.
Eastport.	Fred T. Eldridge, R.	R.
Ellsworth.	Alexander C. Hagerthy, R.	R.
Hallowell.	John M. Robinson, R.	R.
Lewiston.	Louis J. Brann, D.	D.
Rockland.	Frank C. Flint, D.	D.
Saco.	James H. Henderson, R.	R.
South Portland.	Charles E. West, R.	R.
Waterville.	Col. Frederick E. Boothby, R.	R.

*Re-elected.

**Present mayor defeated.

YOUNG MAN SERIOUSLY HURT.

Romeo Scampini Was Drawn into Machine by Wire Rope.

Romeo Scampini, aged 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Scampini of Berlin street, sustained very serious injuries in an accident at the granite manufacturing plant of Comoli & Co. in Bianchi place this morning, when his foot became caught in a wire rope attached to the derrick drum in the yard. Before he could be released, his right leg was fractured above the thigh, and it is feared that a fracture occurred in the right arm above the elbow. Dr. J. A. Wark was summoned and the young man was hurried to the City hospital in the Perry & Noonan ambulance. At the hospital, Scampini was placed on the operating table at once, Dr. Wark being assisted in the operation by Drs. J. W. Jackson and W. E. Ladd.

This afternoon it was too early to determine just what the issue of the accident may be. Bruises and lacerations were caused, but it is thought that no permanent results of an untoward nature will follow unless it develops that there are internal injuries. Immediately after the accident, work at the Comoli plant was abandoned, and the men were told not to return until to-morrow.

Young Scampini had an escape from much graver injury that is regarded as miraculous. He was employed as a derrickman, and it was when he was guiding the movements of the big boom that his foot became caught in a piece of wire roping. The movement of the cable drew him onto the derrick drum, and there he was held fast for a fraction of a moment. Armando Comoli, son of the senior member of the copartnership, was in the yard at the time, and it was in part due to his quick wit that the young man's life was saved. Seeing Scampini's predicament, he promptly ordered the machinery stopped and rushed to the young fellow's assistance. Scampini was carried into the office, where first ministrations were brought by Dr. Wark. The derrickman fled profusely and at the hospital attaches found it impossible to remove his clothing before the introduction of anesthesia.

HOLDING FIRMLY FOR 4-YEAR BILL

Quincy Manufacturers Took Secret Ballot Last Night at Regular Monthly Meeting—South Ryegate Has Settled.

Quincy, Mass., March 7.—The Quincy Granite Manufacturers' association, at the regular monthly meeting last night, took a secret ballot on one of the chief points at issue with the cutters, that being over the length of the proposed new agreement. After the ballot it was announced that the vote was almost unanimous for a four-year bill, the same to expire on March 1, 1920.

The cutters' branch will hold a meeting to-day, at which arrangements will be made for drawing strike pay.

South Ryegate, March 7.—An agreement has been reached in the granite industry here for a four-year bill, to expire in 1920, and \$4 a day wages.

COMING TO SEE WILSON.

Villa Reported to Be on Way to Washington.

El Paso, Texas, March 7.—Francisco Villa is within six miles of the United States border and is on the way to Washington, where he will seek an interview with President Wilson, according to a message received last night by General Gabriel Gaviro, commandant at Juarez, who transmitted the report through Andreas Garcia, Mexican consul here, to Gen. John Pershing, commanding United States troops along the border.

General Gaviro's advice stated that Villa would seek to exonerate himself of blame in connection with the Santa Ysabel massacre, in which 18 foreigners were killed last January, and would further endeavor to place before President Wilson his position with reference to the present situation in Mexico. The message said that Villa was camped a few miles south of Columbus, N. M.

Kemp brought suit against the hotel corporation under a statute which makes property holders liable for money lost in betting on their premises if it is proved that they had knowledge of what was taking place. The hotel management contended that it had no knowledge of any gambling on the premises.

GERMAN CAVALRY MOVING AT YPRES

Dutch Report That Important Movements of Troops Have Been Noted Opposite British Lines.

London, March 6.—Important movements of German troops in Belgium are reported in a Central News dispatch from The Hague. It is said that information has reached The Hague from Maestricht, Holland, that 40,000 German cavalrymen of the landsturm are on their way to the front near Ypres.

LIVING COMES HIGH.

It Has Increased 185 Per Cent in Constantinople.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—The cost of living in Constantinople has increased 185 per cent, since the beginning of the war, according to confidential advice to the state department.

WILSON FORCES WIN IN HOUSE

Vote of 256 to 160 Against Amending of Resolution

WARNING AMERICANS OFF ARMED SHIPS

That Done, the House Settled Down to Debate on Resolution

Washington, D. C., March 7.—In the first test in the House to-day on the question of warning Americans off armed ships of belligerents, the administration forces won, 256 to 160. The opportunity for amending the McLemore resolution was removed and the House turned to a debate on the resolution itself, with every indication that it would be tabled as President Wilson desires as a demonstration to foreign nations that disunion against his foreign policy does not represent a majority of Congress.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—Promptly at 11 o'clock the House assembled for an all-day fight of the administration forces to kill the McLemore resolution to warn Americans off armed ships of European belligerents. Speaker Clark was in the chair. As soon as the journal was read, Acting Chairman Pou offered the privileged resolution containing the special rule under which the debate will proceed. Mr. Pou asked unanimous consent for a 90-minute debate on the rule, and there being no objections, he took the floor and opened the fight.

The first outburst of applause from the floor came at the outset of the Pou speech, when he said: "All the imps of hell never devised a more infamous lie than the declaration that has been made that President Wilson wants war."

DEATH OF F. J. BROWNSCOMBE.

Former Superintendent of Montpelier Schools Died in New York.

A telegram received in Montpelier to-day by John Bartlett from his son, William D. Bartlett, in New York City, stated that Frederick J. Brownscombe, formerly superintendent of the Montpelier schools, died this morning in New York after a week's illness with pneumonia. Last fall Mr. Brownscombe was in an automobile accident and since that time his health had not been good.

Mr. Brownscombe was born in Ontario in June, 1868, and he came to Montpelier in 1904 as superintendent of the public schools. He held that position until 1911. During his stay there he was a popular official and was greatly interested in boys' activities, forming the school life and drum corps which was the second largest school organization of the sort in the United States.

After leaving Montpelier in 1911 Mr. Brownscombe went to Baltimore and remained with his brother for a time, after which he was at the head of the schools in Danbury, Conn. Later he went to New York, being retained by the National Suit & Cloak company to organize a school for the 1,000 employees of that concern. It is thought that the brother in Baltimore is the only near relative.

DEATH OF YOUNG WOMAN.

Miss Eda Gerbetti Died Last Evening After Six Months' Illness.

Miss Eda Gerbetti passed away at her home, 565 North Main street, last evening at 7:40 o'clock. She had been in failing health for six months, although it was not until three weeks ago that her illness took a serious turn. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Gerbetti, two sisters, Misses Olga and Emma Gerbetti, and two brothers, Alfred Gerbetti and Paul Gerbetti, both of this city. The deceased was born in Hallowell, Me., Nov. 16, 1892, and was here for some time before her death. She came to Barre 16 years ago and attended the city schools. For a time she resided in Massachusetts, but latterly she had returned to this city to resume her residence. Miss Gerbetti was very well known among the Italians of the younger generation in Barre and in her passing the death of one whose genial disposition was welcomed in every circle.

The funeral will be held at the house Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock and interment will be made in Hope cemetery.

RE-ELECTED DESPITE WISH.

J. K. Fullerton, Seriously Ill, Declined Election as Waterbury Town Clerk.

Waterbury, March 7.—Town meeting to-day was preceded by the village meeting last night, when the following village officers were elected: President, C. D. Swasey; clerk, J. K. Fullerton; treasurer, E. E. Joslyn; first trustee, Frank L. Eaton; second trustee, Grant O. Russell; collector, George S. Blaisdell; auditors, George H. Dale, M. L. Thibault and Ernest E. Hishin; water commissioner, C. G. Moody; chief engineer, Robert Eggen; first assistant engineer, W. N. Gillette; second assistant engineer, Daniel Guyette; fire wardens, Messrs. Egan, Gilbert and Guyette and R. S. Woodward. A tax of 70 cents was voted, the article on permanent roads was passed over and it was voted to install uniform accounting in the office of the trustees and treasurer.

YARMASTER JAMMED.

J. O. Smith Severely Injured at St. Albans.

St. Albans, March 7.—J. O. Smith, Central Vermont yardmaster, was severely injured last evening when he was caught between a platform and a freight car, one hip being jammed.

SLIGHTLY HEAVIER VOTE.

Cast in St. Albans Than at Last Previous Election.

St. Albans, March 7.—Voting in the St. Albans municipal election to-day was somewhat heavier than last year, a total of 778 votes having been cast up to one o'clock this afternoon, as compared with 743 last year at the same time.

BAKER'S NAME PRESENTED.

Goes to Senate as President's Nominee for War Secretary.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—The president sent the name of Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland, for secretary of war to the Senate to-day.

TO ESCAPE ASYLUM, JUMPED TO DEATH

Ernest W. L'Heureux of Middlebury Was Being Treated at a Burlington Sanatorium and Was to Be Taken to Waterbury To-day.

Burlington March 7.—Ernest W. L'Heureux of Middlebury, in an hour of despondency brought on by the knowledge that to-day he would be taken to the state asylum for the insane at Waterbury, jumped from the third story window of the Green Mountain sanatorium, conducted by Dr. Thomas E. Hays, between 11 o'clock and noon yesterday, meeting almost instantaneous death. Mr. L'Heureux had been mentally unbalanced and was brought to the sanatorium from Middlebury a little over a week ago. Yesterday, after being examined by attending physicians, he was told that it would be necessary for him to go to Waterbury. He had been suffering extreme mental anguish for weeks.

Mr. L'Heureux had suffered from nervousness for many months and had become a user of drugs which gave relief from severe headaches. He realized his condition and, while he was insane, there were times when his mind was normal. At those times he made efforts to control himself and this also were upon him.

His room was on the third floor of the sanatorium and he was allowed to walk about the corridors, which action seemed to give an outlet to his anguish. He jumped from a window which opened off from a hall, clear of the roof of the veranda, and struck on the hard walk leading from the front steps to the sidewalk. There was a compound fracture of both legs but death was due to a fracture of the skull.

Mr. L'Heureux was born in this city and was 33 years of age. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. D. C. H'Heureux of this city, and by four brothers, George H. of New York, G. E. of Nickerson, Kan., Charles W. of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and J. B. of this city. The funeral will be held from the home of his mother at 173 North avenue and the o'clock Wednesday afternoon and the remains will be placed in the vault at Lake View cemetery.

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